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REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on December 29, 2004, and in response to the telephone interview conducted with the Examiner on January 17, 2005. In the interview, the Examiner and the undersigned agreed that claim 9 was allowable. The Examiner and the undersigned did not reach agreement with respect to the remaining claims, and the undersigned indicated that they would be pursued in a continuing application and would be subject to further prosecution.

With this amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to add the features of dependent claims 7 and 9. Claims 7, 9 and 16-32 have been canceled. Dependency of claims 8, 10 and 11 has been changed, and the remaining claims are unchanged in the application. Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is allowable and dependent claims 2-6, 8 and 10-15 are allowable as well. Notice to that affect is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

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